



California Crop Weather

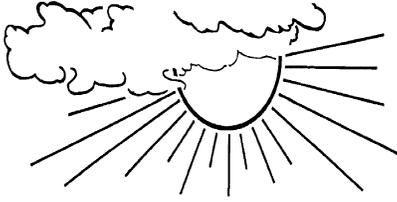
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: July 19, 2009
RELEASED: July 20, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



The observed period remained under the influence of an upper level ridge of high pressure that kept the golden state seasonably warm and dry with a few high clouds. This high pressure center was mostly placed at the Four Corners region. A few places in the valley stayed relatively warm during the nighttime due to high clouds trapping the escaping heat from the ground and emitting it back down to the surface. Overnight low temperatures in the foothills were particularly warm due to temperature inversions. Moisture from the subtropics moving up from the south fed cumulus build-ups and a few isolated thunderstorms in the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Otherwise, no significant weather was reported in the state this week.

FIELD CROPS

Spraying for weeds in **rice** fields slowed. **Alfalfa** and **Sudan grass** continued to be cut and baled. **Winter forage** and small grains continued to be harvested for hay and silage. **Cotton** continued to progress, with plants squaring and setting bolls; some fields were treated for lygus. **Wheat** harvest has been completed in most areas. **Chickpea** harvest concluded. **Corn** and **sorghum** continued to develop. Early planted corn fields were tasseling.

FRUIT CROPS

Nectarine, cling **peach**, and **plum** harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. Primary harvested varieties included Catalina and Fortune plums, in addition to Elegant Lady and Zee Lady peaches. Sacramento Valley **prune** growers added tree supports in preparation for harvest, while San Joaquin prune growers experienced significant fruit drop. Conditions are dry and dusty for North Coast **grape** vineyards, with sulfur applications decreasing and fungicide use continuing at a consistent rate. Conditions were normal for Central Coast vineyards. The Seedless Royal and Flame grapes harvest continued to increase in volume in the San Joaquin Valley, though increased irrigation was necessary due to high temperatures. The **blackberry** harvest continued. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued with some regreening occurrences in the San Joaquin Valley. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards, along with increased irrigation to deal with hotter temperatures.

NUT CROPS

Codling moth, mites, worm treatments, and sunburn prevention sprays continued for **walnuts**. Hull split and miticide spraying continued for **almonds** in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. Hull split in non pareil almonds was averaging less than 50% in most Sacramento Valley orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresh market and processing **tomato** field planting neared completion in Merced County. The harvest of vegetables for farmers' markets continued. **Sweet potato** harvest was underway. In Stanislaus County **beans** were being sprayed with agri-mek for mites and aphids. Harvest of tomatoes was well underway with few pest problems. Tomato yields were reported to be slightly better than the previous year. Maintenance activities, irrigation and ground preparation continued in Sutter County. **Squash** was being harvested. Fresh market **onions** were harvested with good quality reported. Dehydrator onion yield was strong. Honeydew and cantaloupe **melon** harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley, as well as a late-coming watermelon harvest. Harvest of bell **peppers** continued.

LIVESTOCK

Critically dry and deteriorating pasture and rangeland in most areas of the state equaled high fire danger and very poor forage for livestock on dry grasslands at all elevations. Cattle remaining on rangeland and dry-land pasture in many central and southern areas continued to receive supplemental protein, hay, and other feeds. Accelerated drying of northern-area pastureland was also reported. Irrigated pasture was in good condition. Rising temperatures over much of the state increased heat stress on cattle; slowing milk production, as well as creating heat stress on sheep and poultry. Dairy herd reduction continued. Sheep and goats were grazing on dry-land grain and older alfalfa fields, retired farmland and some rangeland. Honeybees were pollinating safflower, sunflower, vineseed, melon, squash, cucumber, and other vegetable plantings. Leaf cutter bees were in seed alfalfa fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 07/19/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 07/19/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 07/19/09	January 1 - 07/19/09	Week Ending 07/19/09	July 1 - 07/19/09	July 1 - 07/19/09	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --				
NORTH COAST											
Eureka	54	-3	63	46	0	0	0.03	0.13	0.14	37.53	
Ukiah	79	5	106	50	682	542	0.00	0.00	0.07	37.96	
Santa Rosa	71	4	96	48	511	326	0.00	0.00	0.06	30.30	
CENTRAL COAST											
San Francisco AP	65	2	88	51	234	107	0.00	0.00	0.03	19.70	
San Jose	--	--	--	--	629	532	0.00	0.00	0.04	14.42	
Salinas AP	64	1	82	53	226	97	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.44	
Monterey FAA	62	1	75	49	136	15	0.00	0.01	0.07	18.72	
King City	74	6	98	50	626	385	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.44	
Paso Robles AP	81	7	110	54	758	609	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.95	
SACRAMENTO VALLEY											
Redding	87	6	110	64	1,348	1,062	0.00	0.00	0.10	33.30	
Red Bluff FSS	88	6	110	61	1,389	1,137	0.00	0.00	0.10	22.29	
Chico AFS	83	6	104	60	1,136	884	0.00	0.00	0.09	26.32	
Marysville	84	5	107	54	1,148	1,098	0.00	0.00	0.07	21.04	
Sacramento AP	82	7	106	56	1,005	802	0.00	0.00	0.04	17.52	
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY											
Stockton WSO	82	4	107	53	1,058	952	0.01	0.03	0.04	13.95	
Fresno	89	7	112	67	1,550	1,250	0.00	0.00	0.01	10.60	
Bakersfield	90	6	111	69	1,745	1,384	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.72	
SOUTH COAST											
Santa Maria AP	64	0	77	50	175	88	0.00	0.00	0.02	12.36	
Santa Barbara	65	-1	77	56	282	197	0.00	0.01	0.03	16.25	
Ventura	64	0	77	54	280	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.38	
Los Angeles	75	1	92	63	1,050	968	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.77	
Riverside	84	7	106	62	1,348	925	0.00	0.00	0.02	9.58	
San Diego AP	72	1	80	65	719	642	0.00	0.00	0.02	9.90	
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR											
Bishop	80	3	105	53	856	696	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.37	
Lancaster	87	6	111	60	1,309	1,016	0.00	0.00	0.05	6.92	
Daggett AP	--	--	114	83	2,012	1,833	0.00	0.00	0.19	3.93	
Thermal AP	97	6	116	73	2,646	2,378	0.00	0.00	0.08	3.16	
Blythe	101	6	117	81	2,889	2,618	0.00	0.07	0.14	3.60	
Imperial	99	8	117	79	2,723	2,439	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.75	
CASCADE - SIERRA											
Alturas	70	5	99	42	208	86	0.00	0.00	0.21	12.01	
Mt. Shasta	71	4	95	46	328	148	0.00	0.00	0.32	37.02	
Blue Canyon	75	8	87	57	446	171	0.00	0.02	0.38	67.04	
Yosemite	77	4	99	56	577	373	0.00	0.00	0.36	37.05	

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (-) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.